

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02

AID-05 IGA-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /047 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:LT. COL. SIGLER:NB

APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

AF/E:RSBARRETT

JSC: CMDR. BAKET

DSAA:MR. GRANPRE

OSD/ISA:GBADER

PM:DJAMES

AF/E:AMB. HUMMEL

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R 202136Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

RUQMAB/CMAAG ADDIS ABABA

SECDEF

RUEKJCS/JCS

CSA

CSAF

CNO

CINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 063535

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS MOPS MILI SO ET US

SUBJECT: EPMG AMMUNITION REQUEST

REF: A) CMAAG DTG 141215Z MAR 75 (SPECAT)

B) DOD/ISA DTG 151934Z MAR 75

C) DOD/ISA DTG 182054Z MAR 75

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1. AMMUNITION RESUPPLY SCHEDULES FOR AIRLIFT REF B AND SEALIFT REF C REPRESENT INTERIM RESPONSE TO EPMG REQUEST TRANSMITTED REF A. LISTING FOR FOLLOW-ON AIRLIFT AND SEALIFT WILL BE PROVIDED UPON FINAL AVAILABILITY DETERMINATION AND RESOLUTION OF PENDING POLICY ISSUES.

2. DEPT AND DOD AGREE WITH OVERRIDING POLITICAL NEED RESPOND WITHOUT UNNECESSARY HAGGLING ON DETAILS, BUT THIS SHOULD NOT PRECLUDE REASONABLE EFFORT ARRIVE AT REALISTIC REQUIREMENTS AND DELIVERY ACTIONS. RESUPPLY OPERATIONS WILL ATTRACT CONSIDERABLE PRESS ATTENTION AND INEVITABLE EXPLOITATION OF REAL OR APPARENT SNAFUS. EFFICIENT THROUGH-PUT HANDLING AT BOLE AIRPORT IMPORTANT, AS WELL AS NEED TO AVOID PROVIDING SPECIFIC ITEMS THAT CANNOT BE EASILY RATIONALIZED, E.G., WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN AIR SHIPMENT OF 30 AND 45 CAL AMMUNITION WHEN GOE HAS ADEQUATE

DOMESTIC CAPABILITY FOR MANUFACTURE. EPMG MUST UNDERSTAND IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THIS PROBLEM, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF LIKELY PUBLICITY OF CURRENT OPERATION BUT BECAUSE OF IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. FLEXIBILITY IN RESPONDING TO ANY FUTURE REQUESTS. IN LIGHT OF PRECEDING, WE HESITATE PROVIDE 30 AND 45 CAL AMMUNITION AS PART OF PROJECT MARENGO MINI AND WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS ON POSSIBILITY

OF GETTING AGREEMENT TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE OR ELIMINATE THESE ITEMS. IN RAISING SUBJECT, YOU MAY WISH INQUIRE ON POSSIBILITY OF IMPROVING OR EXPANDING FACTORY OUTPUT BY GOING ON TWO SHIFTS.

3. EPMG REQUEST FOR 5,000 ROUNDS M60 TANK AMMUNITION ALSO CAUSES US PROBLEMS. IF CMAAG CONSIDERS 5,000 ROUNDS TO BE REASONABLE WAR RESERVE LEVEL FOR 22 TANKS, WE PROPOSE SHIP AVAILABLE M60 AMMUNITION ON SECOND MARENGO MINI SHIP. REQUEST CMAAG ADVISE. AMB. HUMMEL WILL BE DISCUSSING RELATED ASPECTS OF M60, 35 AND 45 CAL AMMUNITION WITH CMAAG.

4. CMAAG ASSESSMENT THAT 7.62MM QUANTITIES EXCESSIVE IN RELATION TO NUMBER M14S IN-COUNTRY WAS BASIS FOR HOLDING SECRET

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INITIAL AIRLIFT TO APPROXIMATELY 50 PERCENT OF REQUEST. ADDITIONAL 4416 MAP M14S NOW LOCATED RED RIVER ARMY DEPOT AWAITING TRANSPORTATION. IF CMAAG DETERMINES THAT ARRIVAL ADDITIONAL 4416 M14S SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY AIR RESUPPLY BALANCE 7.62 AMMUNITION REQUESTED, THIS WILL BE SCHEDULED ON ADDITIONAL SORTIES 8 THROUGH A MAXIMUM 12 TO ARRIVE DURING PERIOD 9 THROUGH 18 APRIL. REQUEST CMAAG ADVISE INGERSOLL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AMMUNITION, MILITARY POLICIES, MILITARY AIRLIFTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE063535
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LT. COL. SIGLER:NB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750099-0583
From: STATE JOINT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750330/aaaabbiw.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CMAAG DTG 141215Z, 75 MAR 75
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EPMG AMMUNITION REQUEST
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MOPS, MILI, SO, ET
To: ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006